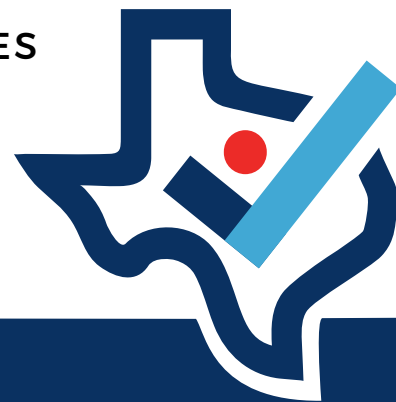


House Bill (HB) 4702

Rep. Liz Campos



Peer Support Services for Individuals with IDD

HB 4702 would allow peer support services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to be billable under Medicaid. It would require HHSC to adopt training and certification requirements for IDD peer support specialists, as well as rules defining the scope of services they may provide. A stakeholder workgroup would be appointed to provide input on the rules, and would be abolished once the rules are adopted. The bill's provisions would not apply to peer support services provided to residents of state supported living centers.



Peer supports are services in which people are provided knowledge, experience, or emotional, social or practical help by individuals with similar backgrounds. In 2017, HB 1486 enabled the creation of a new Medicaid peer services benefit, as well as training and certification guidelines for substance use and mental health peer workers.



TCDD has funded a variety of grants to build peer support networks for Texans with IDD. The projects demonstrated the success of IDD peer support services in the development of person-directed plans that address relationships, health care needs, and employment.



Supporters of the bill include the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, The Arc of Texas, Disability Rights Texas, NAMI Texas, NASW-TX, Texas Council of Community Centers, Texas Parent to Parent, United Ways of Texas, and others.

"Increasing access to this service will provide individuals with IDD more resources to develop social skills while learning how to advocate for their own needs."

Public testimony on HB 4702 to the House Human Services Committee, April 2023

